

SENATE BILL 3277
By Kyle

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3, Chapter 1, Part 1, relative to salaries and expenses of members of the general assembly.

WHEREAS, the salary of members of the general assembly has not increased for sixteen years; and

WHEREAS, the state needs to encourage young people to get involved in civic and political life; and

WHEREAS, the current 1988 salary of state legislators is detrimental to the continuance of a citizen legislature; and

WHEREAS, the state legislature has forgone salary increases to show leadership because of past deficits; and

WHEREAS, the average Tennessean needs greater compensation to be able to serve as a state legislator; and

WHEREAS, populations of various districts have increased and so has time and effort in serving these districts; especially in those districts within which members travel great distances; and

WHEREAS, the people of Tennessee demand state legislators be responsive to their needs which includes spending time researching and dealing with constituent problems and also growing issues such as effect of federal programs and economic change; now, therefore,
BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-1-107(a), is amended by deleting subdivision (1) and substituting instead the following:

(1) Beginning with the election of the One Hundred Fourth General Assembly, each member shall receive an annual salary of twenty-four thousand six hundred dollars

(\$24,600), payable in equal monthly installments, which shall be in addition to all other expenses and allowances provided by law.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004, the public welfare requiring it.